

MEETING MINUTES

August 25, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Bruce Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONER

New Parks and Recreation Commissioner Laura Miller was sworn in by City Clerk Geri Johnson.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Bruce Lewis, Jeanne Wilson-Yu and Laura Miller

Absent: Todd Baker (excused) and Michelle Ramirez (excused)

Also Present: Executive Secretary Clayton Lee

VERIFICATION OF AGENDA POSTING

Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that the agenda for the August 25, 2009 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission was posted at both the Hollister Community Center and City Hall on August 20, 2009 per Government Code Section 54954.5.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Wilson-Yu made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2009 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. Second by Commissioner Miller. Motion passed 3-0, with Commissioners Baker and Ramirez absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robin Pollard of Hollister, welcomed Commissioner Miller to her new position as Parks and Recreation Commissioner.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Reappointment of Commissioners Lewis and Ramirez** – Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that both Commissioners Lewis and Ramirez have been reappointed to the Commission by the City Council. Their terms will expire on June 30, 2011.
2. **Brigantino/Riverside Park Development Project** – Executive Secretary Lee reviewed the status of the 50 acre Brigantino/Riverside Park project. Lee stated that the project is

progressing nicely and that an administrative decision had been made to delay the opening of the facility until Spring 2010. Areas of the turf is not yet established enough to withstand high use if the park were opened at this time. Lee reminded the Commission that the land acquisition, construction of the park, purchase of maintenance equipment and staff to maintain the turf and irrigation system are all paid out of the Sewer Enterprise Fund – not the General Fund. The plant establishment period for the contractor will end November 1, 2009. At that time either a contract will be extended for mowing or City staff will take over the maintenance of the park. Also, staff will be working on the naming process using the established facility naming policy which was distributed to the Commission. Also, staff will be developing park rules which will come back to the Commission for approval. Lee also offered to take the Commission on tours of the facility. Lee will coordinate with the Commissioners based on their availability.

3. **Development Of A Dog Park In Hollister** – Executive Secretary Lee informed the Commission that the City Council agreed to the conceptual location of the off leash dog park being at Airport Park. Staff has discussed a few items with the Hollister Dog Owners Group (HDOG) since the last meeting, but will be focusing on moving forward with the project this Fall. This project will be included in the City's Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) program budget which will be going to City Council for approval sometime in October. Staff will be meeting with HDOG within the next several weeks and Commissioners Lewis and Baker, who make up the Commission sub-committee for this project, will be invited to attend. Lee stated that he would be making an oral update for the City Council at the September 8, 2009 City Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Interactive Inflatable (Bounce House) Policy Discussion** – Executive Secretary Lee provided the Commission with a draft policy for use of interactive inflatable amusements in City parks. Lee gave a brief explanation of the need for this policy due to the number of inflatable jump houses that are being placed in the parks without notification to the Parks Division personnel. There are liability, safety and maintenance issues that surround the use of inflatables in the parks. Lee stated that Shireen Zimani, a summer staff member who attends Cal State University, Fullerton assisted in putting the policy together. Lee asked the Commission to review the policy and he will agendize it again next month for further discussion and possible approval.
2. **Park of the Month** - The Commission reviewed Calaveras School Park for the month of July. Chairperson Lewis commented that he liked the layout of the park especially how it was separated from the school grounds. He commented that he liked the amphitheater, but that the play structures needed some paint and that there was a broken bench in the

group barbecue area. He also stated that there was some graffiti that needed to be painted over. Commissioner Baker forwarded his comments that he noticed some gang graffiti that needed to be removed. The August park to be reviewed was Veteran's Memorial Park. Lee informed the Commission that the only areas that the City controlled at this park, which is owned by the County of San Benito, are the Large Softball and Small Softball Fields and the Skate Park. Commissioner Lewis observed that the fields were well used, but when he visited the turf on the Small Softball Field was overgrown and had not been mowed in a while. Commissioner Baker forwarded his thoughts that it was an older, well used park and that the skate park fencing looks very good. Next month the Park of the Month will be Las Brisas Park.

Commissioner Miller brought up the idea of highlighting a park each month in the local newspapers. Chairperson Lewis offered to draft a description of the parks and forward them to Executive Secretary Lee for review before contacting the newspapers. He stated he had many years writing golf articles for the Salinas Californian newspaper. The Commission agreed that this would be a positive way to get the public familiar with the parks in our community.

3. **Hollister Dog Owners Group (HDOG) Dog Days Event Review** – This item was tabled as there were no members from HDOG in attendance at the meeting.

REPORTS

1. **Recreation Program Review** – Executive Secretary Lee provided the Commission with a review of Recreation Division activities in the month of July and August 2009.
2. **Parks Division Review** – The Commission received an overview of the activities of the Parks Division for July and August 2009.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Parks and Recreation Commission, Commissioner Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. Second by Commissioner Wilson-Yu. Motion passed 3-0, with Commissioners Baker and Ramirez absent.

The next regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be held on September 29, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clayton Lee, Executive Secretary
Parks and Recreation Commission

